

# Church of the Immaculate Conception Castlecomer

4<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Parish Newsletter

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)



## + BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO DIE IN THE LORD +

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Brother Nicholas Healy, Redemptorist Community, Limerick;  
Maura O'Neill, Inistioge; Bishop Brendan Comiskey, Ferns;

### ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Sat 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7pm: Nellie Stone, Skehana  
Michael Coogan, Aughamucky; Lil Coogan, Kilkenny St.  
Sun 4<sup>th</sup>, 11am: Robert Shore, Kiltown (Month's Mind)  
Anne McInerney, Ballyhemon  
Thur 8<sup>th</sup>, 9am: Helena Downey, Tinalinten  
Sat 10<sup>th</sup>, 10am: Paddy Bergin, Chatsworth Street

### ANNIVERSARIES

Bridie Brennan, Upper Coolbawn; Julia Shore, Firoda; John Shore, Firoda

### ANNIVERSARIES MASSES WEEKEND 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup>

Sat 7pm: Patricia (Patsy) Dowling, Knocknadogue  
Sylvester Hennessy, Smithstown;  
Sun 11am: Tom Kealy, Aughamucky  
Margaret (Maggie) Kennedy, Mayhora; Gerry Close.

Two useful websites ([www.cruXnow.com](http://www.cruXnow.com) and [www.ncronline.org](http://www.ncronline.org)) cover Church news in a balanced and detailed manner, offering news and analysis from journalists with decades of experience on the Vatican.

### PARISH CONTACTS:

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### THE PARISH OFFICE:

Parish Office: 085 827 8729  
Parish Email: [castlecomer@ossory.ie](mailto:castlecomer@ossory.ie)  
Webpage: [www.castlecomerparish.ie](http://www.castlecomerparish.ie)

### WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION:

Week Ending 23<sup>rd</sup> February: €2,055.00  
Sincere thanks to all who contribute to parish funds and to the clergy funds. Míle Buíochais.

### *Pilgrimage in the Jubilee Year of Hope to Blessed Edmund Ignatius Centre, Callan*

Bishop Niall invites you to Callan for the celebration of Mass in Blessed Edmund Rice Chapel, Callan, on Tues, 6<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 p.m.

Theme: *Edmund Rice, A Man of Hope.*

## OSSORY TIMES

Easter edition available - €2

### MINISTRIES IN OUR PARISH:

#### Ministers of Word:

7pm: Maureen Holohan  
8am: Tom Teehan  
11am: Margaret Kavanagh

#### Ministers of Eucharist

Mon – Sat Maria Reyes  
Sat 7pm: Sheila Lawlor  
Sun 8am Noreen Curry  
Sun 11am Angela Molloy

### Safeguarding in our Parish & Diocese:

Diocesan Liaison Person: Ailish Higgins  
Contact: [dlp@ossory.ie](mailto:dlp@ossory.ie) or 085 802 1633

### Parish Safeguarding Reps:

Eilish Dunne & Ger Comerford  
Contact: Parish Email or 085 827 8729

## REMEMBERING POPE FRANCIS

The universal church continues the traditional nine days of mourning on the death of Pope Francis. Called *The Novendiales* each day a different group is scheduled to participate – based on their connection with the Holy Father. A memorial card is available in church and you are invited to take one remembering Pope Francis during these days.

## MAY – MAY'S MONTH

'May is Mary's month.' So begins the poem *The May Magnificat* of Gerard Manley Hopkins, the English Jesuit poet. May is the month that the Church dedicates to the Blessed Virgin Mary, mother of God and our mother, a month in which we are invited to walk in hand with Our Lady. The month of May is always part of the Easter season, the fifty days we celebrate in the liturgy the Resurrection of Our Lord, a time also of awaiting the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Pope Francis reminds us that Mary is a model for every Christian, and The First Disciple who shows us that heaven is within reach, (Feast of the Assumption, Aug. 15, 2022).

## LOCAL MONTH OF MAY DEVOTIONS

### Adoration Of the Blessed Sacrament:

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May 3 - 5PM.

### Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet

Monday thro Saturday (12noon) and 3pm every Sundays.

### Rosary on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup>

Rosary will be recited at the Statue of Our Lady, Barrack Hill, Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 4pm.. All are welcome to join in.

## OSSORY PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

Fintan Barrett will join over 50 young people from our diocese in Lourdes this year. There will be a Church Door collection at all masses next week for support of his fundraising.

## Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lough Derg.

Bishop Niall invites you to be part of the *Jubilee Year of Hope* Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lough Derg, 30<sup>th</sup> May – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2025. Information meeting in St Patrick's Centre, Loughboy on May 9<sup>th</sup>. All welcome.

**PLEASE RETURN TROCAIRE BOXES**

## POPE FRANCIS FINAL: ACT OF MERCY

At the end of his life, Pope Francis made one last symbolic gesture by emptying his personal bank account to donate €200,000 to the prisoners he had long championed.

Bishop Benoni Ambarus, Auxiliary Bishop of Rome and Director of the Office for Prison Pastoral Care, commented that it was a final act of love toward those he had called his "brothers and sisters behind bars", and even as his strength visibly declined, Francis refused to abandon the most forgotten members of society. On Holy Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, he 'dragged his body to Regina Coeli'.

A poignant detail revealed after his death showed that Francis' burial would be paid for by a benefactor. Having given everything to others, he left no money behind in a final demonstration of solidarity with the poor and marginalized.

## THE CONCLAVE – STATISTICS

There are 252 Cardinals in the College of Cardinals; 135 cardinals will vote in the Conclave. 117 cardinals, who are over the age of 80, attend the daily meetings leading up to the conclave on May 8<sup>th</sup>. 36 cardinals who are non-electors were appointed by Pope John Paul II; 5 cardinals appointed by Pope John Paul II will enter the conclave. Pope Benedict appointed 62 cardinals: 22 will vote in the conclave and 40 are over age the age of 80. Pope Francis appointed 149 cardinals during his 12 years as pope: 41 are over age and will not vote; 108 will attend the conclave. The cardinals who will enter the conclave represent 72 countries: 10 from USA, 16 Italians, 55 countries have a single cardinal elector; the continents of Asia and Europe both have 18 countries represented in the conclave and Africa will have 17 cardinals. 95 countries have a represent in the College of Cardinals; the oldest is Cardinal Angelo Acerbi who will turn 100 on September 23<sup>rd</sup>; the youngest member of the College of Cardinals is Cardinal Mykola Bychok, C.S.s.R., Eparchial Bishop of St Peter and Paul of Melbourne of the Ukrainians who was born in February 1980.

**Parish Office Telephone No**  
**085 827 8729**

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Tues 7pm – 9pm; Wed and Sat after Morning Mass.